

BUTTE COUNTY
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION
Monday, November 13, 2000
Public Hearing for the Strategic Plan
Minutes

Commissioners Present: Pat Cragar, Jane Dolan, Marian Gage, Gary House, Mark Lundberg, Linda Moore, Gene Smith. Staff: Cheryl Giscombe, Robbyn Pollard

Absent: Sandra Machida, Deborah Rowell

Gene opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m., and asked the Commissioners and staff to introduce themselves.

Gene provided guidelines for those giving public input. He asked that speakers, during the public comment time, use the microphone provided by the Commission. Speakers were requested to give their name, address, organizational affiliation, and to spell their name for the minutes. He also asked that speakers limit their comments to five minutes.

Gene reported that the Commission's Strategic Planning subcommittee intends to recommend to the full Commission at the November 17 meeting, that all comments received at the Public Hearing, be reviewed by the Strategic Planning Subcommittee for recommendations to be included in the plan in the next the month. Any substantial changes will be incorporated into the Strategic Plan at the time the plan is reviewed in 6 months. The Commission will respond to public input after the Strategic Planning Subcommittee has met and made recommendations to the full Commission.

Gene gave a brief background of the Proposition 10, the development of the Commission, and the process for developing the Strategic Plan.

PUBLIC HEARING

Gene opened the Public Hearing.

Bruce Baldwin, Tobacco Prevention Coalition, asked to address the Commission, but first introduced an associate, John Larson. He indicated that John had some general comments, and that his were pretty specific.

John Larson spoke first.

"Mine can be said very simply. I'm an ex-smoker. I think that says all I need to say. I just hope you people can keep doing the beautiful job you're doing and we can get rid of this scourge on America."

Bruce Baldwin

“First I’d like to thank the Commission for a couple of things, for one for such a comprehensive plan, for two, I know there was quite a bit of pressure on you guys to start spending the money. And I appreciate that you took the time to go through this planning process as comprehensively as you have, you know that this is an important thing and I’m glad that you have given it the thought and the work that is required to do this. Mostly as members of the Coalition went through this document, we just wanted to make sure that tobacco and the reduction of tobacco use in the appropriate population was well represented. So we have specific, almost semantic things, word changes, that we’d like to add.

On page 24, under Focus Area One: Healthy Children, Early Assessments and Screenings, we would like to see a screening added for alcohol, tobacco and drug use, so if there is any screening going on the parents would be screened, and we would like to see a screening added for exposure to ETS, exposure to environmental tobacco smoke so somehow, when children are screened, they’re screened for those things that if they’re exposed to tobacco at that age we’d like to know about it.

On page 29 under Objective 1.2, we’d just like to see the word tobacco included so it’s specific to alcohol, tobacco and drugs, rather than just alcohol and drugs.

And we have that on page 34 as well, in Objective 1.2, we’d like to see the word tobacco added to that objective so it’s specific to tobacco.

Page 35, under Alcohol/Drug and Mental Health Services, again we would like to see that say Alcohol/Tobacco/Drug and Mental Health Services, and in the first sentence there, ‘Increase the capacity of alcohol/tobacco/drug treatment programs’. And I would like to see the words cessation added so it says including day treatment and residential treatment or so it could be including day treatment comma and residential treatment and cessation so that that’s specific because they really are separate issues.

Page 37, the very top line of the page, Increase newborn drug screening when drug, tobacco or alcohol use is suspected and make appropriate referrals.

Page 47, Sample Process Measures, it says ‘Number of smoking cessation programs available’, and we’d like a measure of how many people enrolled in those, just how many programs are available and how many people are signing up. And that’s all.

Thank you very much. I really do appreciate all the work that you’ve put into this.

Lloyd King, Grandparents as Parents Support Group, and a trainer with Butte Community College for Relative Caregivers.

“I did have one question. When they start submitting proposals for the money will they be required to be a 5013C to get a ...? The reason I’m asking is we’re only half way through ours, we’re probably about 60 days away from it. It’s been filed and everything. But the Franchise Board, they’re slower than Christmas.”

Gene stated if there was no further public comment, he would respond to the question. He said he believes we are not limited to 5013Cs. We’ve yet to flesh out the RFP/RFA process, but early in the planning process we discussed who might be eligible to apply, and we didn’t limit it, we were pretty inclusive of who might be able to apply.

Marian Gage also responded to Mr. King’s question: the issue she thinks, is primarily what we’re concerned with is that whoever is asking for money would also be able to show that they have the fiscal and financial capacity to monitor their spending and so forth. So that’s probably what we’re more interested in, that whatever organization is applying can show fiscal accountability.

Gene asked for further public comment. There being none, he closed the Public Hearing at 7:25 p.m. He thanked all involved in developing the Strategic Plan. Tomorrow we will present the Strategic Plan to the Butte County Board of Supervisors as an informational piece, and on Friday, November 17, the Commission will make the final approval on the Strategic Plan and submit it to the State. Once the State receives it, the County will start receiving revenue. The RFP is still being developed. We are negotiating with the Technical Assistance Center for a consultant to help us develop the RFP.

Pat Cragar thanked George Siler for the use of the Paradise Ridge Community Center.